

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

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C O N F I D E N T I A L NATO 08255

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: MARR, US, NATO
SUBJECT: CEP: POSTPONEMENT OF SENIOR CIVIL EMERGENCY
PLANNING COMMITTEE (SCEPC) DECEMBER 1977 PLENARY MEETING

REF: AC/98-DS/121

1. THERE FOLLOWS IN PARAGRAPH 2 BELOW THE TEXT OF THE
NETHERLANDS (NL) CEP OFFICER'S (HOFMAN) LETTER TO THE
CHAIRMAN, SCEPC, RECOMMENDING POSTPONEMENT OF THE SCEPC
MEETING, IN PLENARY SESSION, SCHEDULED FOR DECEMBER 13-
14. THIS ITEM WILL BE DISCUSSED UNDER "ANY OTHER BUSINESS"
DURING THE SEPTEMBER 27 MEETING OF THE SCEPC IN PERMANENT
SESSION.

2. BEGIN TEXT:

DEAR MR. MUMFORD,

AT THEIR MEETING OF 29/30 JUNE, 1977, THE MEMBERS OF
SCEPC-PLENARY AGREED TO MEET AGAIN ON 13/14 DECEMBER, 1977.

FOLLOWING RECENT INFORMAL DISCUSSIONS BETWEEN DELEGATIONS
I AM NOW SUGGESTING TO POSTPONE THIS MEETING UNTIL
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FEBRUARY, 1978. BY THAT TIME THE SCEPC MAY BE IN A
POSITION TO REVIEW THE SUBJECTS OF INTEREST TO THEM WHICH
ARE TO BE DISCUSSED IN THE PROGRESS REPORT TO BE LAID BE-
FORE THE NATO HEADS OF STATE AND GOVERNMENT MEETING IN
MAY, 1978 IN WASHINGTON.

I COPY THIS LETTER TO ALL DELEGATIONS, ATTENTION OFFICER

IN CHARGE OF CEP. END TEXT.

3. AS STATED IN PARA XIII OF REFERENCE, THE SCEPC AGREED DURING THE JUNE 1977 PLENARY SESSION TO MEET IN PLENARY SESSION IN DECEMBER. AMONG THE REASONS FOR SCHEDULING THE DECEMBER MEETING WERE: (1) TO DISCUSS THE PROGRESS BEING MADE BY THE PLANNING BOARDS AND COMMITTEES (PB&CS) IN SUPPORT OF RAPID REINFORCEMENT CONCEPT AND TO PROVIDE ADDITIONAL GUIDANCE TO THE PB&CS IF SUCH WERE NEEDED, AND (2) TO DISCUSS PROGRESS IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF HILEX-8, AND WINTEX/CIMEX-79.

4. WE BELIEVE THAT POSTPONEMENT OF THE SCHEDULED PLENARY SESSION COULD UNNECESSARILY DELAY THE WORK OF THE PB&CS IF ADDITIONAL INSTRUCTIONS FROM THE SCEPC ARE NEEDED AND RESULT IN THE PB&CS NOT BEING RESPONSIVE TO THE PRIORITY EFFORT THAT WAS AGREED TO IN SUPPORT OF THE RAPID REINFORCEMENT CONCEPT. FURTHER, SHOULD THE SCHEDULED PLENARY BE POSTPONED UNTIL FEBRUARY, IT WOULD BE EXTREMELY DIFFICULT FOR THE SCEPC TO CHANGE OR REVISE THE CIVIL PLAY IN HILEX-8 (SCHEDULED TO BE CONDUCTED IN MARCH, 1978) IF REQUIRED, OR TO INFLUENCE THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE SCENARIO FOR WINTEX/CIMEX-79.

5. ACTION REQUESTED: WASHINGTON COMMENTS AND/OR GUIDANCE CONCERNING THE PROPOSAL BY THE NL DELEGATION. GLITMAN
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